



Michigan SCC - News from the Mitten

SOCIETY OF COSMETIC CHEMISTS — MICHIGAN CHAPTER

Volume 8 Issue 2

May 2020

A Message From Chapter Chair Rhonda Solberg

As we all adjust to this new normal, my thoughts are with you and your families. I hope you're staying safe and healthy. Michigan, the country and the world is experiencing a pandemic that has disrupted everyone's personal and professional lives. The last several weeks have been trying for all of us, but I continue to be inspired by the goodness in people and the genuine acts of kindness, large and small, that I see every day. These gestures of warmth, strength and caring give me the confidence that in time, we will emerge more united than ever before.

Due to travel restrictions, for our first meeting on March 12, we all had to pivot and act quickly to accommodate live participation at the Paddock Place restaurant, our speakers presenting virtually from different parts of the US, and chapter members joining online from home. It was quite the success with only a couple technical challenges. Industry professionals, Anna Gripp and Nicole Paraszczuk from BASF presented "Sunscreen Regulation Changes and Trends in 2020." While formulation expert, Susan Sperring from Symrise spoke about "Challenges in Formulating Effective Sunscreens." Thank you to all who participated.

Please know that your Board and Committee Members are working hard to keep you informed of advancements in cosmetic science, as well as, implementing new ways of engagement that protect the safety and well-being of our members. It's in that spirit that I wanted to share with you some good news about our upcoming May chapter meeting. It will be held virtually on May 14 from 4:00 – 5:00 PM via Microsoft Teams. Robert Coats, Ph.D., Research Consultant at Colonial Chemical will present "Formulating Dioxane-Free Personal Care Products." This meeting will be free to anyone who would like to attend. Please register for the event on our website at: <https://www.sccmi.org/event-information>.

Now, on to some less good news. With the global pandemic becoming significantly worse, the SCC MI Board decided to cancel the golf outing this year. We will continue to monitor the situation regarding COVID-19 and our future events. Please stay tuned for more digital and virtual communication.

In closing, I want to express that I'm grateful to be part of an industry that has risen to the occasion. Companies have pivoted their operations and manufacturing to produce much needed hand sanitizers and personal hygiene products. Many organizations have offered complimentary products, food and self-care services to people on the front lines of this pandemic, as well as, generously donating money to all those affected by COVID-19.

Collectively, we will get through this and move forward in our new normal. This crisis has revealed a great deal about who we are as people and I'm moved by your continued resilience and resolve. Thanks again for your participation and support of the chapter!

Stay safe, stay healthy, and remain optimistic. I look forward to seeing you at upcoming events!

Thank you,

Rhonda Solberg

2020 SCC MI Chapter Chair

Feel free to email me at Chair@sccmi.org. I want to get to know you and hear your ideas, suggestions, and concerns.



Our May Meeting Will be Held via Teleconference on May 14
Please register on our website: <https://www.sccmi.org/event-information>



Formulating Dioxane-Free Personal Care Products

Presented by: Dr. Robert Coots from Colonial Chemical

1,4-Dioxane is a contaminant of interest for many global regulators due to its role as a toxicant and possible carcinogen. It can be found in many personal care products as the result of ethoxylation or other select processes which use ethylene oxide or polyethylene glycol. Recent changes to regulations in the state of New York will require a significant reduction of ethoxylated ingredients and certain other reaction products. Fortunately, the personal care industry has already made significant strides in new product development to replace ingredients with potential dioxane contamination. This presentation will focus on dioxane-free alternatives in three common application areas: mild surfactants, emulsifiers, and thickeners. It will present a variety of alternate technologies and provide efficacy data for selected technologies, including Zein scores for irritation, emulsion stability data for emulsifiers, and viscosity response curves for thickening.

Congratulations to the Winner of Our Best Speaker Award for 2019

Andrea Gaiter, a Report Analyst with Mintel-Beauty, won the 2019 Best Speaker Award from the SCC Michigan Chapter. She presented, "CBD, Cannabis, and Hemp Beauty - Worth the Hype?" on May 2, 2019 at the City Flats Hotel in Grand Rapids, MI. This award is given for the best scientific or informational paper presented before each Chapter during a given calendar year.



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The editor welcomes news items and short articles for publication in our newsletter. Please submit your information directly to Mike Starch at msstarch@att.net

Photos from Our March Meeting



We met at Paddock Place in Grand Rapids just as COVID-19 was starting to appear in Michigan



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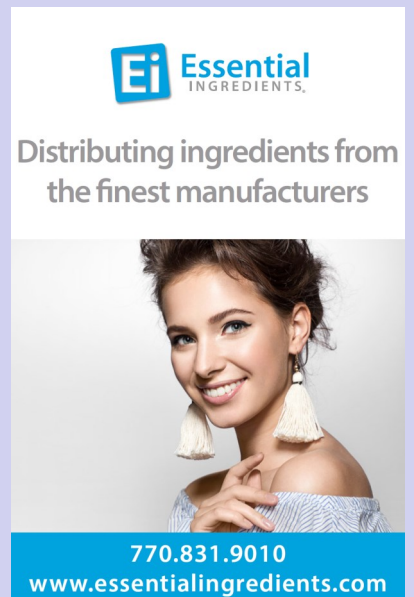

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2020 Society of Cosmetic Chemists Calendar

- TEAMWORKS 2020—**Postponed to October 29**
- May 14 - SCC Michigan Chapter Meeting—***Virtual meeting—see page 2***
- NYSCC Supplier's Day - **Postponed to September 30—October 1**
Jacob K. Javits Convention Center (New York City)
- September 17 - Michigan Chapter Meeting - City Flats Hotel (Grand Rapids, MI)
- November 12 - Michigan Chapter Meeting - Zehnders (Frankenmuth, MI)

Meet Our Board Members—Chair Rhonda Solberg



SCC Background: I have been a member of SCC since 1991. In 1999, I served as Treasurer for the Twin Cities chapter. In 2012, I joined the newly founded Michigan chapter where I served on different committees, such as the Program and Symposium committees. I served as Secretary in 2018 and Chair-Elect in 2019. As the 2020 Chair, I am looking forward to upholding our professional and educational standards, to bring an intellectual and inspiring year!

Education: I received my bachelor's degree in Biology from the University of Minnesota. My minor is in Genetics and Cell Biology.

Career Background: I started my career formulating primarily hair care products at Lamaur Corporation (aka DowBrands) in Minneapolis, MN. I then moved to the supplier side and formulated skin care products in the Technical Service group at Goldschmidt Corporation (currently known as Evonik) in Richmond, VA. My desire to return to product development brought me back to the Midwest at Kimberly Clark Corporation formulating baby products for the Huggies brand. There, I was granted 2 US patents and developed many leadership and professional skills. Currently, I am a Principal Research Scientist at Amway Corporation in Ada, Michigan responsible for formulating premium skin care products. My area of focus is in skin whitening and sunscreen technology, along with product development. During my career at Amway, I trained to be an Expert Speaker which allows me to travel globally, experience different cultures and food, and meet friendly, welcoming people. In my 15 years at Amway, I have traveled to 11 different countries - evidence of a truly global company.

Hobbies & Interests: I love to travel, cook new recipes, go tent camping, and spend time with my 2 year old Goldendoodle, Oliver Blu. I dabble in photography where portraits and outdoor landscapes are my favorites. You can also find me around West Michigan visiting various art, jewelry & pottery shows.





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Meet Our Board Members—Secretary-Lu Bai

SCC Background:

I had been a member of the NYSCC for multiple years before moving to Michigan in 2019. This is the first year of being an officer for a chapter. I am very excited to have the opportunity to serve the Michigan chapter as the secretary this year.



Education: I am currently pursuing my MBA in University of Michigan Ross School of Business. I received my Ph.D. from University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in Molecular & Cellular Biology with a focus on Analytical Chemistry, and got my Bioengineering degree from the Shanghai Jiao Tong University -in Shanghai, China.

Career Background: I am currently a formulation and application scientist in Home & Personal Care R&D group at Dow, where I lead innovation projects to develop functional and sustainable materials mainly for personal care applications. On my role, I am also heavily involved in external partnership development in the sustainability space. Throughout my time in this group, I have published 1 paper and filed over 10 patent applications. I started my career in Core R&D in Dow in a purely technical role back in 2012 working to develop a fast multi-dimensional liquid separation technique from scratch to accelerate polymer discovery and product development. I got my certification as a Six Sigma GBPL through this project, and after successfully establishing this tool, I documented internally and externally and presented in a

few invited talks in analytical conferences.

Hobbies & Interests: In my spare time, I love spending time with my son. I also enjoy hiking, working out (Zumba and yoga are my favorites), cooking, diving and snorkeling.



At our March meeting, Rhonda presented your humble editor with the Chapter Merit Award for my work on the newsletter. I have edited this newsletter since our chapter was founded in 2013. This was a nice surprise and I thank the board for nominating me for this award

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